



Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
P.O. Box 12496, Dallas, Texas 75225-12496

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 1990

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 6, 1990, Wyatt's Cafeteria, Northlake Shopping Center, Northwest Highway at Ferndale. Eat 6:00 P.M., pay cashier and sign attendance register. Program at 7:00. Bill Murchison, Columnist for The Dallas Morning News, will speak on Dr. Graham Landrum's views of Lynn Landrum, Editorial Writer for The Dallas Morning News from 1920's to 1950's. His column was titled "THINKING OUT LOUD". Also the annual election will be held and new officers installed.

1991 DUES: Will be due January 1, 1991, and will be delinquent after the first week in March. Dues are \$15.00 per year or \$25.00 for a couple. (Consider Life Membership now; one-time payment of \$150.00 per person or \$250.00 per couple). Why not pay dues at December Meeting and save your 25¢ postage? Thanks.

"PROUD HERITAGE: PIONEER FAMILIES OF DALLAS COUNTY" book: Buy one of these wonderful and informative books for a loved one for Christmas while they are still available. Cost \$30.00 if picked up and \$32.50 if delivered.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: We now have 7 Honorary Members, 26 Life Members 4 Students (3 should be dropped because of ages), and 145 regular members for a total of 182 members. Let's make that 200 soon.

SYMPATHY TO: Family of Arthur Frederick Dieterich on his death August 20, 1990. He and his wife Louise Caillet Dieterich were Charter Members of DCPA, and also their daughter, Nancy Dieterich Kurrus.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES: William F. Jacoby, Jr., 5818 E. University Blvd., Dallas 75206, Phone: Same. Barney C. Jones, 7814 N. Central Expressway, Dallas 75206, Phone: 373-1236.

APPRECIATION TO: Mrs. Barbara Jarrell, 2221 Wilshire, Fort Worth, Texas 76110, for her donation to DCPA in memory of Mary Nell Cullum Clampitt.

THE FOLLOWING DATA IS FROM NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM: Frances Patrick (Reece) James descends from Robert Arons (1854-1930), who came in 1877 and was Postmaster at Cedar Hill in 1878. He married in 1886 Matilda Jacoby (1860-1941). Their daughter Reka Arons (1892-1978) married Lloyd Brown Patrick (1892-1967). They are the parents of Frances, and both are buried at Restland. Frances is also a member of the Historic Preservation League and The Pleasant Grove Historical Society.

DEDICATION OF HISTORICAL MARKER: A recent Dallas News article reported the unveiling of a Texas Historical Commission Marker at Temple-Emanu-El Cemetery, Dallas' oldest remaining Jewish Graveyard on Howell Street. It was created in 1884, but also contains graves moved from an earlier cemetery at Akard and Marilla Streets. Grave and burial records of these two cemeteries thus date back to when Dallas was a struggling village, and form an important part of Dallas County History.

On November 4th Forney, Texas, historians dedicated a historical marker at Bell Park, just off Trinity Street, commemorating the first automobile trip in Texas. The location of the marker is the road the car traveled on its 5½ hour journey from Terrell, Texas, to Dallas. The automobile was driven by Edward H. R. Green, President of Texas Midland Railroad in Terrell. The car was described by historians as a two-cylinder Phaeton with a top speed of 25 miles per hour.

Past Presidents

Col. John C. McCoy	1875	Col. Epps G. Knight	1910	Br. William B. Baird	1980	William F. Jacoby Jr.	1984
Mai. John H. Brown	1887	Col. Murrell T. Buckner	1943	Lloyd Miller	1981	Edna J. Hart	1986
Capt. E. Alex Bawlings	1895	John E. Neims	1979	Col. Earl G. Cullum	1983	Sara H. McGee	1988

ANNOUNCEMENT: Baylor University, Waco, Texas, is holding its third National Conference-History in Film and Television: A Symposium on Oral History scheduled for March 21-22, 1991. The Oral History Seminars help record "Family" for Book II. Please contact Edna Hart for more details if interested.

INTERESTING DATA: A fascinating trip through early Dallas with A. C. Greene (assisted by Lucile Boykin) is provided in Greene's "Dallas - The Deciding Years - A Historical Portrait (1973). He uses 40 pages to tell about early Dallas, and nearly 140 pages for pictures of the city and its people. For us who are slow readers, the pictures are a real delight.

The Crutchfield House was erected in 1852 at Commerce and Houston (present Dealey Plaza). It burned in 1888. The 1855 wooden Cockrell Bridge over the Trinity River collapsed in a flood, and Sarah's iron bridge replaced it in 1872. The 1857 brick courthouse was torn down in 1871. The 1871 stone courthouse burned in 1880. John Henry Brown came to Dallas in 1871, and was our first historian. His home at Pearl and Live Oak was still there in 1923. In 1873 the south-north and east-west railroads crossed at Dallas, and a mule-drawn streetcar began city operations.

Confederate General W. L. Cabell was mayor in the 1873-84 period. Another resident of Dallas at that time became widely known later as Belle Starr. The Windsor Hotel became a Dallas landmark in 1879. The Dallas Opera House was another, until it burned in 1901. The E. M. Kahn store opened in 1886, and stood across Lamar from Sanger's for many years. The City Hall stood from 1889 to 1909, when it was torn down and replaced by the Adolphus Hotel in 1910.

Electric streetcars replaced the mule cars in 1889. The "Snagboat Dallas" worked from 1892 to 1898 trying to clear the Trinity River for navigation, then gave up. The Steamboat Harvey completed one Gulf-to-Dallas trip in 1893, and ever since we have continued to talk about opening the Trinity to navigation.

Parkland Hospital opened at Maple and Oak Lawn in 1894, and the Dallas Police adopted Bobby-style helmets in 1896. The Oriental Hotel was at Commerce and Akard in 1900, and circus elephants paraded through downtown Dallas. The Carnegie Library stood at Commerce and Harwood in 1903, and a new Cadillac Automobile Agency opened in Dallas. "The State Fair of Texas" got a new name in 1904, but was at the same location we know today. Later, in World War I, Camp Dick was established by the U. S. Army at the Fairgrounds, and auto races began on the track where the Cotton Bowl now stands.

The William B. Travis School and Central High School were operating in 1905, as was St. Paul Sanitarium on Bryan Street. Munger Place opened in 1905. The Elks Arch stood over Main Street at Akard, and the last lynching in Dallas occurred there in 1910. A Trinity River flood in 1908 cut Oak Cliff off from Dallas, and a new White Rock Lake in 1909 would "fill the Dallas water needs until 2009".

The Houston Street viaduct opened in 1912, and Colonel C.C. Slaughter's elegant Packard Sedan was the wonder of Dallas streets. Falstaff, Pabst and Miller High Life beers were offered, as was I. W. Harper whiskey. The Electric Interurban began its runs in 1913 (and don't we wish we had it now). Dallas Hall at SMU stood alone on its hilltop in 1915, and you could get there by streetcar across the open prairie. The Katy Railroad was seen to the east. And in 1919 the Sanger Brothers store shipped packages from Love Field to Waco by plane, with visions of the future.

THANK YOU, A. C. GREENE!

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS OF DATA IN "THE DALLAS STORY" by Stanley Walker, printed by The Dallas Times Herald in 1956:

The John Neely Bryan cabin near the Dallas County Courthouse is a "reasonably honest restoration". Bryan was born in Lincoln County, Tennessee

in 1810, and later lived with the Indians in Arkansas for four years. He helped lay out the town of Van Buren, Arkansas. He then rode his pony "Neshoba" with his bear-dog "Tubby" and a lame Cherokee named "Ned" came to North Texas and camped on the bank of the Trinity River. He painted his name on a stone there, and went back to Arkansas where he loaded his possessions on a pack-horse and returned to his Trinity River campsite. Before he arrived Major John Bird with 30 men had built a small fort 22 miles to the west, and began bringing the men's families there to live. Bryan rode over to Bird's Fort and persuaded Captain Mabel Gilbert to move to Bryan's site. Then came John Beeman and his wife and 10 children, who in the Spring of 1842 floated down the Trinity in cottonwood log dugouts. Daughter Margaret Beeman, age 17, then married Bryan, age 33, and they soon built their cedar log cabin. Buffalo, deer and turkeys were plentiful. They had wild honey, and farmed with a bois d' arc plow with a buffalo-skin harness.

Meantime John Grigsby, a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto, received a Republic of Texas landgrant which overlapped Bryan's claim. About this time J. P. Dumas arrived with his wife and 12 men, a wagonload of corn, and 100 head of cattle. Dumas was a surveyor, and he and Bryan laid out a town 8x10 blocks in size. This survey was not patented until 1854, nine years after Bryan gave his first deed for a town lot. In 1846 the new Texas Legislature created Dallas County, 30x30 miles in size. "Colonel" Bryan was the town's first lawyer, merchant and postmaster, as well as its founder, but he left to follow the 1849 gold rush to California. Unsuccessful there, he returned to live with the Indians in Oklahoma Territory. In 1850 Hord's Ridge and Cedar Springs challenged Dallas in an election to determine the county seat, and Dallas won the closely contested race.

The county was named for U.S. Vice-President George Mifflin Dallas, but Bryan's village was called Dallas long before G. M. Dallas was known outside of Pennsylvania. Perhaps it was named for Navy Commander Alexander James Dallas, who was based on the Texas coast and visited Bryan's little settlement; or for Bryan's Arkansas friend Joe Dallas, who had settled at the Cedar Springs community three miles to the north. In 1854 there were 14 young Frenchmen who spoke no English, appearing in Dallas to set up an 1100-acre "La Reunion" French colony west of the Trinity River. Two hundred more came in 1855, most from France but some from Switzerland, Belgium and Germany. The weather defeated them and the expedition failed, but families such as Guillot, Long, Boll, Reverchon, Cretien, Nussbaum, Cantagrill and Santerre stayed to enrich Dallas.

In 1855 Bryan shot a man he believed had insulted his wife. Bryan rode off, leaving his wife and children, and did not return until 1861. He was in Oklahoma when Dallas officially became a city in 1856. He drank heavily and finally sold his townsite interest and ferry concession to Alexander Cockrell for \$7,000.00. Cockrell was shot and killed in 1858. Bryan lived at the Beeman farm and had nothing to do with the town he had created. He was present when the railroad arrived in 1872, but had no part in the events; then in 1877 he was placed in the State Mental Institution at Austin, where he died at age 67.

Dr. Sam B. Pryor became the first Dallas Mayor in 1856. The City Limits were still the half-mile square of blocks laid out by Bryan and Dumas many years earlier. Dallas County boasted six towns, Dallas, Hord's Ridge, Cedar Springs, Farmers Branch, Lancaster and Cedar Hill. Leading figures included Alexander Cockrell; Attorney John C. McCoy; Judge William B. Ochiltree; William B. Miller, for whom Miller's Ferry and the Millermore Mansion were named Obadiah Knight, father of 17 children; J. W. Latimer, publisher of the "Cedar Snag", later called "the Herald", a weekly newspaper. In 1859 the county had 97 negro slaves. The first County Fair was held at the later site of Baylor Hospital, and the first circus came to town.

In 1860 the "Great Fire" destroyed much of the town. Two itinerant preachers were whipped and driven off, and three negroes were hanged at the end of Main Street. The printing plant, postoffice and Crutchfield House

hotel were burned, but Dallas rebuilt. Then came the Civil War, with a Confederate Army Camp at Dallas, and Army Quartermaster and Commissary depots. After the war \$30-million in Confederate paper currency was burned at Dallas.

Reconstruction Governor E. J. Davis ruled that Dallas Mayor Henry S. Ervay could not take office, but the State Supreme Court overruled the Governor.

Cotton became "king" after the war, and in 1868 the steamboat "Sally Haynes" navigated the Trinity River as far as Dallas. Later two railroads would reach Dallas, and a bridge over the Trinity River would result in the growing community which has become the great city we know today.

ANOTHER INTERESTING ITEM: One of the Army Officers at Camp Dick during World War I was Lieutenant Jimmy Doolittle, who led the Tokyo Bombing in 1942, and is now a Retired Four-star Air Force General.

1991 NOMINATIONS: Edna J. Hart, Chairman of the Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers for Year 1991:

President.....Mattie L. Hughes
Vice-President.....Edwina Dyes
Secretary.....Nona E. Williams
Treasurer.....John C. Winniford
Historian.....Frances James

Nominations can be made from the floor prior to the election at December Meeting. Past Presidents Earl O. Cullum 1983, William F. Jacoby 1984, Edna Hart 1986 and Sara J. McGee 1988 will follow the usual custom of serving on the organization's Board of Directors and William F. Jacoby will continue to serve as Public Relations Officer.

"ROLL OF HONOR" NOMINATIONS: William H. Hord - Association Vice President 1875-1895, came in 1845, cabin on Hord's Ridge, became Oak Cliff.

John C. Winniford - Now Candidate for fifth year as Association Treasurer.

PLEASE NOTE: Our meeting room is open to us at 5:00 P.M. for eating, visiting, so come early if you can, for fellowship and getting better acquainted.

We had ninety (90) members and guests registered at our September Meeting. The late arrivals sometime fail to get registered, so please be sure to register. We need the support of all our members and urge you to attend as regularly as possible. We clear the tables, pay our bills before the program, and invite guests and new members to our meetings. We do not smoke up our meeting room, or talk when others are listening to the speaker. WE ARE A FINE GROUP!

The DCPA members voted in September to include in "Proud Heritage Vol.II" articles on Activities in Dallas County prior to 1920. Each article can continue up to 1990, within the 750-word limit. Non-members can also submit such articles. Thus the State Fair, Red Courthouse, SMU Football Team can also be included. To date we have 40 entries for the new book.

At our dinners, when the President says "All Stand", please do so only if you can do so comfortably. If it is difficult for you, stay seated.

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES TO BE PICKED UP: Lloyd D. Bockstruck, Mark C. Mueller, Linda Vilbig Allen, Mary Allene Jones and Janecia June Bell LaRoe.

OUR GRATITUDE AND GREETINGS TO: Our members who continue to support us though living in Oklahoma, Bristol, Tennessee and Nashville, Tennessee. We have numerous members who live in Texas too far away to attend meetings and they continue to be loyal members. We are grateful to all our members too who live in our outlying suburbs so to speak like Garland, Richardson, Irving, Plano, Rockwall, Grand Prairie, Terrell, Forney, etc. We appreciate all of you. Forgot to mention Morris Hicks in Farmington, Connecticut.

HISTORICAL NEWS: An interesting article in the Dallas Times Herald November 19, 1990, depicts a lovely picture of the David Walker Florence home in Mesquite, Texas. This home is to be restored to its 1891 condition. Town East Mall, modern subdivisions and the freeway now dominate where this farm and ranch land was originally. Mesquite was founded over 100 years ago and anxious to preserve a few of the historical landmarks.

ANOTHER CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Mary Cullum Nash, 5542 Glenwick Lane, Dallas, Texas 75205.

SICK BAY: We all rejoice with Jackie Jacoby that she is doing so much better. She has been doing some kitchen work, going to town with Bill and to the grocery store. Keep up the good work, Jackie. Bill Jacoby will have hip replacement surgery on January 22nd. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you, Bill. Earl Cullum had eye surgery on October 18th and is doing well. He will be happy to have his new lens. B. Porter Cochran will have eye surgery on November 27th and we wish him the best.

We feel sure there are others we should know about who might be ill, so please contact the Secretary and keep her up to date.

Please make your plans to attend our December 6th Meeting and meet your new officers and hear the interesting talk by Bill Murchison of the Dallas Morning News. We will be looking for you. Let's end our year with a good attendance to show our appreciation to the hard work that goes on to keep your organization going strong.

WE WISH FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES A BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON AND A NEW YEAR FILLED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF GOOD THINGS.

Mary M. Cullum
Secretary

MORE INTERESTING DATA: A beautiful postcard collection depicting buildings dating from 1845 to 1906, all now restored at Dallas' Old City Park, is being placed in the DCPA Archives for viewing by any members who are unable to visit the park in person. These cards were mailed by Miriam Cullom Parker to Mary Cullum, one-at-a-time, following Mary's 1989 surgery.

The collection shows an 1845 "dog trot" log house, the famed 1855 Miller-more Mansion (exterior and interior), an 1876 gabled house, an 1890 Victorian house, and a 1900 "Queen Anne" house (exterior and interior). There is also an 1890 dentist's office, and an old iron pump and water trough.

There is an 1847 log school, an 1888 schoolhouse, an 1890 church, a 1904 general store, and a 1905 red-brick bank. There are also interior views of these, all faithfully restored and furnished in 19th Century style. Other "gems" include an 1880 bandstand, an 1885 popcorn wagon, an 1886 railroad depot, a 1904 town hotel, and a 1906 printshop.

Those who have never visited Old City Park are urged to do so soon. And now perhaps the new DCPA officers will agree it is time for our group to visit Old City Park again, as we did so long ago. How would it be to have a special DCPA event there in the Spring of 1991 ???



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